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Snowden reporter denounces British 'intimidation'

RIO DE JANEIRO (AFP) - An American reporter who published intelligence leaks by Edward Snowden accused Britain of "intimidation" Monday after his Brazilian partner was held for nine hours at Heathrow airport.

"Now I will be more radical in my reporting," Glenn Greenwald, a journalist with Britain's Guardian newspaper, told reporters in Brazil, where he lives with his partner David Miranda.

"This was a clear attempt at intimidation."

Greenwald was among the first reporters to publicize documents leaked by Snowden -- a former IT contractor at the US National Security Agency -- which detailed vast secret spying programs.

Miranda was held for nine hours and questioned by British authorities as he passed through Heathrow on his way back to Rio de Janeiro from a trip to Berlin.

"There were six different agents, coming and going, talking to me. They asked me

questions about my whole life, about everything, and they took my computer, my games, my memory cards, everything," Miranda said.

Greenwald, who has said he has more information about Western surveillance programs, vowed to train his sights on London.

"I have a lot of documents about England's espionage system. Now my focus is going to be on them also. I think they are going to regret what they did," he said, speaking in Portuguese.

Police detained Miranda on the basis of a controversial British counter-terrorism law

that allows authorities to hold a suspect for up to nine hours without showing probable cause.

The suspect must cooperate and answer questions or face criminal charges, and a lawyer may or may not be present.

Brazilian Foreign Minister

Antonio Patriota said Miranda's detention was "unjustifiable" and that he would raise the matter with his British counterpart.

Amnesty International has also slammed the detention, calling it "unlawful and inexcusable."

OP/Ed:

The upcoming debate: will we hear truths that voters don't wish to face?

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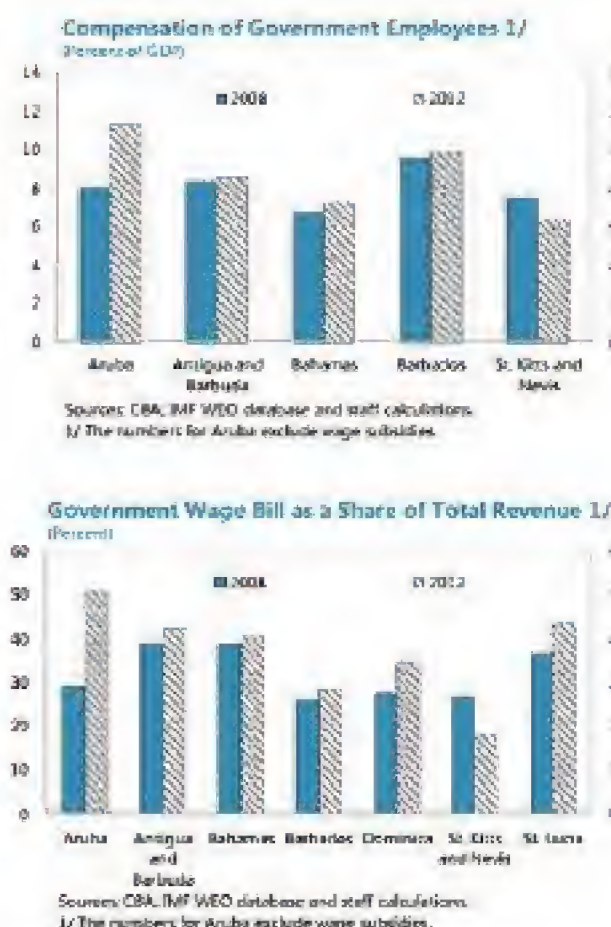
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OP/Ed: The upcoming debate: will we hear truths that voters don't wish to face?

Public sector personnel cost. At above 11 percent of GDP, compensation of government employees is the largest component of government spending. Adding wage subsidies to the picture brings wage-related spending close to 15 percent of GDP. Given the recent performance of the economy, a substantial divergence has emerged between growth in public wage costs and the growth of the economy. Wage-related spending is also high as a percent of total revenues. Targeting a gradual reduction in wage related costs to their 2009 level can create savings of around 2 percent of GDP by 2018. In order to make consolidation durable, this should be achieved through a combination of a permanent reduction in the number of government employees (which grew by 3 percent in 2012) and a review of the wage compensation policies in the public sector.



As Aruba's elections, which take place every four years, approach at the end of September, those who follow such important events can't help but make some comparisons to last year's campaign results in the U.S. Will we have the same surprises as the Republican politicians, born of their own purposeful dismissing of the facts? Aruba's electoral process is not nearly as long and drawn out, (Praise be!!!) steeped in confusing political rhetoric, but island voters face some very serious issues this year, chiefly, the state of the economy.

The social issues of the last U.S. elections that alienated large voting blocks are simply not on the island agenda. One political party though is campaigning on the legalization of medical mari-

juana and same-sex marriage. The voters for whom these are important concerns on Aruba are a very tiny percentage, and will certainly not sway an election, but they do provide talking points other than the economy.

A debate among the major candidates is being conducted this coming Thursday evening, August 22, organized by Aruba's Chamber of Commerce, KvK, in collaboration with the Aruba Trade & Industry Association, ATIA. It will take place in the ballroom of the Westin Aruba Resort in Palm Beach. Moderator is TeleAruba News Anchor Ruben Trappenburg and the themes of the topics have been officially announced: General Economy, Social Security, the National Health Insurance (AZV) and Public Finances. It is an effort from

Aruba's principal commercial entities aimed at the interests of the business community, allowing the major parties to outline their solutions for Aruba's economic concerns. Organizers have confined it to the parties that now hold seats in parliament because of time constraints, and should not be construed as a political statement on the worthiness of the other parties.

The casual island visitor may wonder at the question; it is difficult to imagine that such a paradise as Aruba has any concerns. However, laying around on the beach of a sumptuous resort is a vacation pastime, and permanent residents are not on vacation. As a community, they have the same social and economic concerns of nations around the world, perhaps not such extreme worries as some, but

issues that must be dealt with, nonetheless.

A report from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) regarding Aruba's economic status was issued in April. An official statement of their conclusions came out on August 9, ironically, the same day that Aruba's political parties submitted their candidate lists, a time-honored tradition, which is a day for rallying around the candidates and demonstrating party loyalty. Amid the celebrations, it did bring something of a storm cloud over the proceedings, and raised issues that all parties simply chose to ignore in their statements, other than pointing fingers at opposing parties.

The IMF clearly states that Aruba's national finances are in serious trouble, with public expenditure out-distancing its income. Anyone knows this is disastrous for a household, business, and country, it is simple, basic balancing of the books, expenses versus in-

come.

So, what are a nation's expenses? They are varied, particularly in their degree of necessity, but most would put infrastructure, education, health care, security and social development high on the list. Also important is the encouragement and development of entrepreneurial enterprises which help an economy to grow and increase the GDP. We must applaud the current administration for their attention to these areas and their efforts to stimulate progress and improvement. Admittedly, not all projects were deserving of taxpayer's money, but that is to be expected. However, they were very active and showed great vision in their programs to generally improve the quality of life for all Arubans, no matter their economic or social status. The downside: all this greatly increased public spending.

Continued on pg 3

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The upcoming debate...

Continued from pg 2

This is a sticking point of the IMF report: the increase in public spending and loans incurred over the past four years, along with a huge inflation of the annual public payroll for civic workers. According to the IMF, Aruba's "fiscal position worsened significantly in recent years. Preliminary data suggests that the overall fiscal balance recorded a deficit of 3½ percent in 2012. Notwithstanding measures taken in the pension and health sectors and efforts to collect tax arrears, the deficit widened sharply from pre-crisis years due to the tax rate cut and increased current expenditure."

Island administrators have cited a plan for recovery, of which the IMF approves; however, a key part of that plan is the re-opening of the refinery in San Nicolas. To be honest, how realistic is this factor? Talking to those who have studied the oil industry and the condition of this antiquated facility, we have been informed that there is little chance of any informed oil company wishing to invest the money to make it viable once more. Not only is the expense prohibitory, but Aruba is no longer a opportunistic location to the industry as it was when the refinery was built. The costs to renovate the facility to the level of current technologies required, is equal or greater than building a new refinery in a much more strategic location. Presently, the port is being used as a transshipment station by Valero. Island pundits consider that building an economic plan on the refinery being fully deployed

again, is a fantasy that holds the island back from fully developing that area with other profitable and useful enterprises.

Two factors are crucial to Aruba again attaining economic stability: cutting costs and increasing revenue. The IMF has recommended raising the retirement age that allows citizens to qualify for Social Security benefits, rather than cut the amount of the benefits. We again applaud the current administration for not being hypocritical regarding this issue. Civic workers on Aruba enjoyed a lower retirement age (55) and a much higher benefit pension over the general working public. Prior to raising this age to 60, equal to that allowing ordinary workers to begin receiving standard benefits, members of parliament first imposed this new age limit on themselves, before establishing it for all civic workers. This set the example, paving the way for the acceptance of this higher retirement age.

However, the government has been advised strenuously by Holland and the IMF to cut the civic payroll. This is always a bitter pill to swallow, and if cut by the percentages recommended, they claim it will slow down the general economy and consumer spending. Somewhere along the way, public expenditure will have to be cut...we just have to wonder if the various parties, when they issue their economic plans, will be willing to be truthful about where it will be trimmed. Presently, there are some projects in process that Aruba could certainly do without,

but have, unfortunately, bound the government to a financial commitment that will likely have monetary penalties that do not allow us to cancel the projects. This is a serious dilemma.

The other aspect of balancing the budget that few wish to face is the only time-tested method of refilling public coffers speedily: increasing current or establishing new taxes. The IMF has recommended a Value Added Tax, or VAT, of at least 15%. Considering the hue and cry over the establishment of a 3% cumulative tax (BBO) on goods established by the previous administration in 2007, we can't imagine anyone would welcome this new tax. The hard truth is there will, most definitely, be something coming along these lines, once the dust of the current election has settled. We must wonder if during the debate, any of the candidates will admit they have such tax increases integrated into their economic recovery plan?

We tend to doubt it. There is a famous (notorious?) moment in the electoral campaign of the first Bush president, the father, when he said "Read my lips, no new taxes." Within six months of election, his administration proposed new taxes. Is it any wonder that those of us with good memories look askance at election promises?

A well known island economist with a PhD from Holland feels the IMF report is repeating much of what it has said in 2003, 2007, 2010, and it is rather contradictory. However, much of that is based on what it has been told

by various island sources and financial institutions, some of which disagree on the state or our economics and the fiscal obligation, particularly the impact of PPP arrangements. There are differing opinions as to whether these are actually private or public debt. When closely examined, one has to suspect it will be the taxpayers who will be saddled with paying back the investment on some of these projects. Also, some feel the statements of the IMF report are being "twisted for the purpose of the political circus" that is always taking place during election time...a universal occurrence, no matter where the country or what their system. However, our observations are based purely on what we read in the report, and are not based on any particular bias. Aruban voters

have some hard truths to face about what will happen after elections. Even though nations throughout the world are facing these same issues, on a small island such as Aruba, where we manufacture little and have no natural resources as exports to fall back on, these are important questions.

The current administration has revealed an inspiring vision for Aruba's future. "The real question is where are we going as an island nation towards Aruba 2020?" asks our economist, as a positive and definitive path for the island's future is required, with continued growth, socially and economically. How will we get there without undermining our fiscal standing...are voters prepared to face the truthful answers? Will we get them?

By Rosalie Klein

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Mrs. Rita Galati also finds her lucky streak in the Casino "where players win".

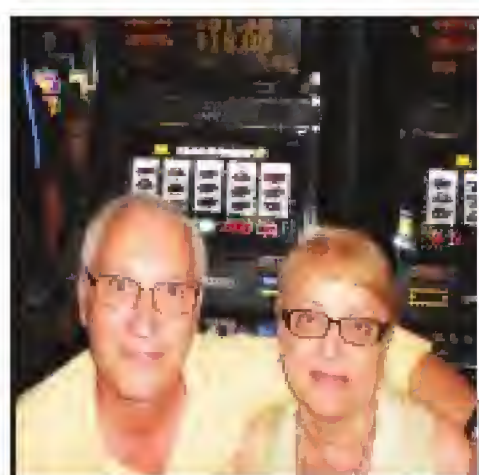
Mrs. Galati won a total amount of **\$1,644,-** at the Aura Casino at the Occidental Grand while playing on the brand new slot machine "Blazing Sevens."

Mrs. Maria Gonzalez was also another happy winner after walking away with the beautiful sum of **\$3,358,** won on the slot machine "Crypton's Gold."

Staff & Management want to congratulate all the lucky winners and invite everyone to come and win at the Aura Casino at the Occidental Grand: "Where players win."

The center of Aruba has definitely shifted here at the Aura Casino, which happens to be smack-dab in the middle of all the action on Palm Beach.

Come and try your luck, maybe you can be one of Aura Casino's next lucky winners!



players are leaving with big smiles on their faces.

Recently, **Mr. Teodomira Rivero** was one of those happy winners. Mr. Silva found his lucky streak in the newly renovated Aura Casino "where players win."

He won the nice amount of **\$1,136,-** while playing on the slot machine "The Book of Ra."

Another happy winner was **Mrs. Jeffrey Getman**, who won a total amount of **\$2,127,03** at the Aura Casino while playing on the brand new slot machine "Quick Hits."

Mrs. Agnes Tredis also decided to join the winners. Mrs. Tredis won a total amount of **\$1,300,57** playing the slot machine "Quick Hits."

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Aruban windsurfers join Dutch Techno-Talent Clinic



Local windsurfers Mack van den Eerenbeemt (15) and Milan de Jonge (15), members of the Wind Racers Club Aruba (WRCA), travelled to the Netherlands last week for a Bic Techno 293 clinic in preparation for the Youth South American Games (Odesur). One of these games is being held next month in

Lima, Peru, from September 9-29. Next year more Bic Techno 293 championships will be held in order to classify Aruba for the Youth Olympic Games in Nanjing, China, next year.

The clinic is being held in the Dutch city Brouwersdam, a popular spot amongst windsurfers. During 6 days mem-

bers of the Dutch Windsurf Association are training 30 talented athletes with the main focus on windsurfing strategy and tactics but also on meteorology and nutrition.

Mack and Milan: "All participants and trainers gathered this morning to meet and greet and we received the first instructions. Tomorrow morning we start at 7 a.m. with a 'wake up run' and then we have breakfast. After that we have to rig our equipment to start training on the water (open sea). After lunch the windsurf clinic will continue until 5 in the afternoon. A tough schedule that will last for 6 consecutive days."

After the 6 day clinic Mack and Milan will sign up for a slalom competition,

called 'Mission XL' with national and international Top Team windsurfers, also held in Brouwersdam. Besides the races, there will be shows and presentations of new and top of the line equipment. Also integrated in this program is 'The Battle of Giants', a professional freestyle competition.

Mack and Mylan are already looking forward to meet worldfamous windsurfers like Gollito Estredo (5 times Free Style World Champion), Dieter van der Eyken (number 4 at the PWA world ranking list) and the Dutch talents: Paul Boef, Davy Scheffers, Rick Jendrusch en Nick van Ingen.

We wish the Aruban athletes hopi exito(good luck)!



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Minister Michelle Hooyboer-Winklaar meets author Henry Dabian

"Rayjean is a story written by an exemplary father"



The Minister of Economic, Social and Cultural Affairs, Michelle Hooyboer-Winklaar, had the opportunity of meeting local author Henry Dabian who wrote the book 'Rayjean' and 'E mago sacabum'. The meeting took place at the UNOCA office.

The book 'Rayjean' is about a small child with different kinds of adventures, who still can not walk. The story recounts his life, his toys and lots of fantasies.

The Minister was impressed with the author's inspiration. The author shared about his three children and how being present at the birth of his first born was an inspiring experience which changed his perspective. He told how he spent the first two years entertaining his son while working as a guard. He later decided to write a book about the stories he was reciting to his son.

"This is a beautiful showcase once again of our native language Papiamentu on the local market. This one in particular is unique because the inspiration of the author came

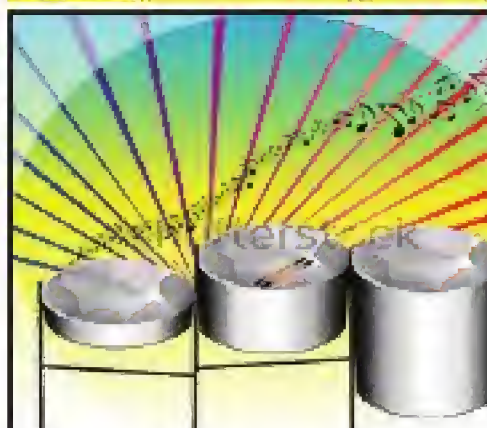
from his own son. It is an impressive sight since the father is usually not present in our homes, and thus not present in the life of his son...", according to The Minister.

The Minister is certain that this book will be included in the books to be read in our Bon Nochi Drum Dushi program. The Minister also happens to be one of the volunteers for the Fundacion Bon Nochi Drum Dushi.

This is Henry Dabian's first published book although he apparently has other unpublished works at home. His book is dedicated to his son. He has a collection of about 6 stories and currently working on 5 others. Dabian intends to continue writing and giving information to children through illustrations and stories.

Steel Pan Night at Palm Beach Plaza Mall

Every Tuesday Night from 7pm - 9 pm



Nico Connor, a second generation steel pan recording artist, is one of the two performing sons of the late Edgar Connor, Aruba steel pan pioneer who obviously shared his talent with his sons.

Nico has been surrounded by (steel pan) music and was in love with the sound from a young age, his mother Gloria Connor the great arranger of

the famous invaders steel band gave him a saxophone that's still at his side but his steel pans have always had priority in any form of music.

Together with his also talented brother Lee they brought a new trade wind to steel pan music, arrangements and performing. As a steel pan performer/label owner he's always looking for the next step to add to his virtuosity groovy sounds, and expand his musical journey beyond the horizon.

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US prosecutors demand 60 years for Manning

FORT MEADE (AFP) - US military prosecutors demanded Monday that Private Bradley Manning spend at least 60 years in jail for handing a vast trove of secret files to anti-secrecy site WikiLeaks.

Captain Joe Morrow urged trial judge Colonel Denise Lind to impose a tough sentence to "send a message to any soldier contemplating stealing classified information."

The 25-year-old former army intelligence analyst has been convicted on a raft of espionage and theft charges that could see him jailed for

more than a century.

But Lind is conducting a sentencing at Fort Meade, a military base just outside Washington, to decide how long the young man, who has apologized, should serve.

Morrow dismissed the defense argument that Manning was a naive and troubled soldier who believed he was doing good by exposing what he saw as abuses in America's conduct of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Instead, the prosecutor branded the leaks "destructive" and said Manning was a "determined insider who exploited an imperfect system."

Obama meets Bernanke, financial regulators

WASHINGTON (AFP) - US President Barack Obama on Monday met Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke and other top regulators to press for urgent and full implementation of a sweeping finance reform law.

Obama, mulling the choice of a replacement for Bernanke who is expected to retire early next year, held the rare closed door meeting at the White House.

Officials said that Obama commended the regulators

for their work so far on implementing the reforms, known as the Dodd-Frank law, and consumer protections.

But a White House statement said he also "stressed the need to expeditiously finish implementing the critical remaining portions of Wall Street reform to ensure we are able to prevent the type of financial harm that led to the Great Recession from ever happening again."

Human rights group demands halt to live ammo use in Egypt



A man walks between lines of bodies wrapped in shrouds at a mosque in Cairo

NEW YORK CITY (AFP) - Human Rights Watch called on the Egyptian government Monday to stop using live ammunition against protesters, as it challenged the official death toll from day one of the ongoing crisis.

In a statement, the New York-based human rights group said the large-scale use of live ammunition was not only unjustified, but also a failure to abide by international policing standards.

With the death toll mount-

ing every day, Egypt's military rulers should "urgently reverse" police instructions to use live ammunition to protect state buildings, it said.

Such lethal force should be used "only when strictly necessary to protect life," it added.

"This excessive and unjustified use of lethal force is the worst possible response to the very tense situation in Egypt today," said Human Rights Watch's acting Middle East director Joe Stork.

"Egypt's military rulers should rein in police forces to prevent the country from spiraling into further vio-

lence. The military should not be encouraging police to use even more lethal force."

Investigating the August 14 crackdown on the Rabaa al-Adawiya protest camp that triggered the ongoing crisis, Human Rights Watch said the death toll "appears to be at least 377" -- higher than the figure of 288 released by Egypt's health ministry.

Human Rights Watch cited "first-hand documentation" and interviews with health workers, as well as a list of fatalities from the Egyptian Center for Economic and Social Rights, as the source for its toll.

Russia, US to discuss Syria next week: official

MOSCOW (AFP) - Top Russian and US officials will meet in The Hague next week to discuss preparations for a long-delayed international peace conference on Syria, Russian and US officials said Monday.

The US State Department said the meeting follows an accord reached at August 9 talks in Washington between the foreign and defence ministers of the two countries.

The meeting in The Netherlands will also involve Lakhdar Brahimi, the UN-Arab League envoy on the crisis, an unnamed Russian diplomat separately told the ITAR-TASS news agency.

Moscow and Washington agreed in May to conduct the so-called Geneva 2 talks, which aim to bring together President Bashar al-Assad's allies and the opposition for the first time after two-and-a-half years of conflict.

Indian train kills 37 pilgrims, sparks riot

PATNA (AFP) - An express train ploughed into a crowd of Hindu pilgrims in eastern India Monday, killing 37 and triggering a riot that left one of the drivers dead and carriages ablaze, officials said.

The pilgrims were crossing the tracks at a station in the state of Bihar when the high-speed passenger train struck them, a senior police officer said.

"The death toll is now 37," S.K. Bharadwaj, an additional director general of police, told AFP. Nine women and four children were among the dead.

"Dozens of people have been injured. We do not have exact figures of those injured because they were taken away to various hospitals," he said.

Angry crowds went on the rampage, attacking the Rajya Rani Express which stopped after the accident. They attacked its drivers, killing one and seriously injuring another, Bharadwaj said. The crowd also set carriages on fire and ransacked the station in the small town of Dhamara Ghat, 248 kilometres (154 miles) from the state capital Patna, local railway chief Arun Malik told AFP.

Prime Minister Manmohan Singh "expressed deep sorrow and shock at the loss of lives" and appealed for calm, a statement from his office said.

A senior railways official said it appeared the pilgrims were unaware of the oncoming train on the middle of the station's three tracks.

"Two trains were already stationary on other tracks and the Rajya Rani Express was given permission to pass," Arunendra Kumar, chairman of the national railway board, told reporters in New Delhi.

"The accident occurred because some people left the platform of the station and came on the tracks," Kumar said.

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International News

Shock as Australian baseballer gunned down by US teens

SYDNEY (AFP) - An Australian family was Monday struggling to come to terms with the "senseless" death of their baseballer son in a random drive-by shooting by three teenagers in the United States.

Chris Lane, 22, was in the US on a baseball scholarship and was jogging in the small town of Duncan in Oklahoma when he was shot in the back on Friday and left to die on the side of the road.

Three teenagers aged 15, 16 and 17 were arrested and face the death penalty, Danny Ford, chief of Duncan Police Department, told the Australian

Broadcasting Corporation.

The killing has made headlines in Australia and in a separate interview with Australian Associated Press, Ford said it appeared the teenagers were on a "killing spree" after leaving a chilling message on Facebook.

On one of the alleged killer's Facebook pages investigators said they found the message: "Bang. Two drops in two hours", AAP reported.

Lane's devastated father Chris said his death was so pointless.

Baseball Australia said it was shocked by the circumstances of Lane's death.

Death toll from Philippine ferry disaster rises

CEBU, August 19, 2013 (AFP) - The death toll from a ferry disaster in the Philippines rose to 52 on Monday as more bodies were pulled from the water, the coastguard said.

Divers and patrol boats were continuing to search for 68 other people still missing after the St Thomas Aquinas ferry collided with a cargo ship on Friday night and quickly sank near the central city of Cebu, the coastguard added.

Navy and coastguard divers have been struggling against

strong currents to enter the wreckage of the ferry, which is about 30 metres (98 feet) under water.

The latest confirmed death toll rose from 38 on Sunday night.

No details were immediately given as to how or where the extra bodies were recovered.

However an AFP reporter witnessed one bloated body, which had been found floating in the water, being towed to shore by a coastal patrol boat on Monday morning.

New York cops make 'largest gun bust' in city's history



NEW YORK - 19 people were arrested and 254 guns recovered in what Mayor Bloomberg and Police Commissioner Ray Kelly are calling the largest gun seizure in New York City history.

The weapons seized in the investigation include a fully automatic machine gun and handguns.

Among the indicted gun

runners were two men who regularly smuggled guns in their luggage on discounted Chinatown-bound buses.

New York City Police Commissioner Ray Kelly commended the efforts of the law enforcement for upholding the number one priority: to keep New Yorkers safe.

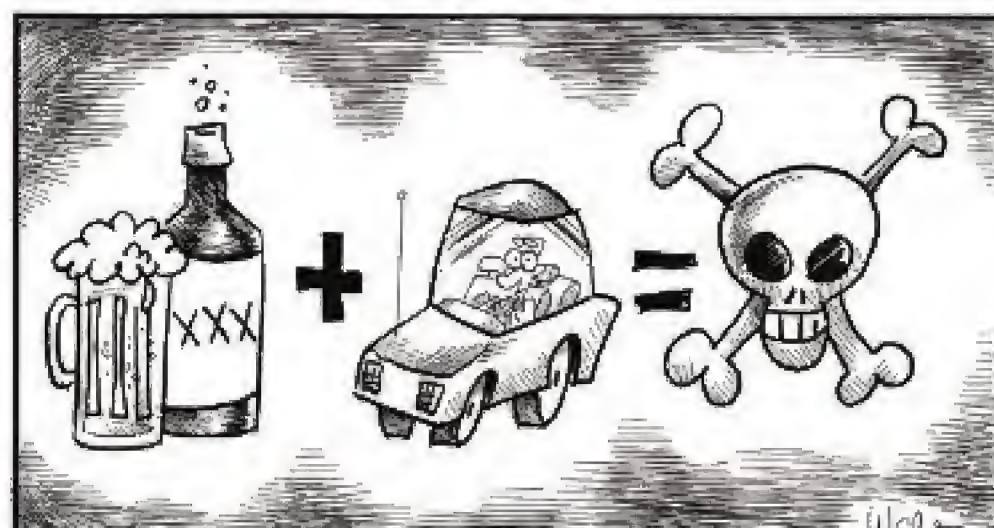
The gun-sales case began a year ago when an unrelated

narcotics investigation uncovered evidence that aspiring Brooklyn rapper Matthew Best, 26, was selling weapons out of his makeshift Ocean Hill recording studio.


The investigation into Best led law enforcement to focus on Brooklyn gun broker, Adeji Omole, 31. Omole was buying guns from two men running unrelated but strikingly similar operations from the Carolinas, officials said.

An undercover cop investigating the case snapped up every gun the two runners offered during the investigation to prevent them from hitting the streets, officials said.

NYPD Commissioner Raymond Kelly heaped praise on the unnamed undercover detective, who did not appear at the news conference in order to protect his identity and on-going work.



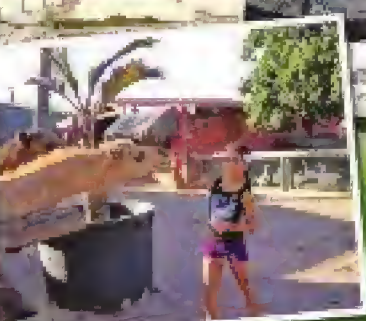
BAGHDAD (AFP) - More than 30,000 Syrians have crossed into Iraq in recent days, one of the biggest such movements since the country's conflict began, the UN's refugee agency said. Seeking refuge from brutal fighting between Kurdish forces and jihadists and a collapsing economy in their homeland, an estimated 5,000 Syrians entered Iraq's autonomous Kurdistan region just on Monday, spurring the UNHCR to mobilise vast amounts of aid in a bid to provide water and shelter. Kessler (spokesman for the UN refugee agency UNHCR) said that while the numbers appeared to be subsiding, the UN had sent 70 trucks carrying aid for the refugees into Iraqi Kurdistan, as well as other dispatches of 2,100 tents, two prefabricated warehouses and water containers for thousands of families.



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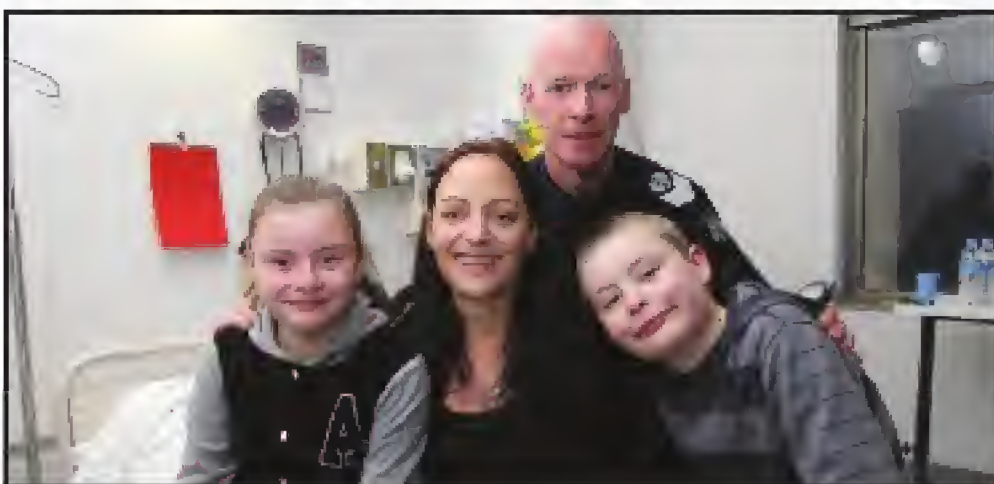


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Health & Living

Australian doctors bring woman back from the dead



SYDNEY (AFP) - An Australian woman has lived to tell the tale after being brought back to life from being clinically dead for 42 minutes, doctors said on Monday.

Mother-of-two Vanessa Tanasio, 41, was rushed to Monash Medical Centre in Melbourne last week after a major heart attack, with one of her main arteries fully blocked. She went into cardiac arrest and was declared clinically dead soon after arrival.

Doctors refused to give up and used a compression device called a Lucas 2 -- the only one of its kind in Australia -- to keep blood flowing to her brain while cardiologist Wally Ahmar opened an artery to unblock it.

Once unblocked, Tanasio's heart was shocked back into a normal rhythm.

"(I used) multiple shocks, multiple medications just to resuscitate her," Ahmar said.

"Indeed this is a miracle. I did not expect her to be so well."

Tanasio said she had no history of heart conditions and was grateful to be alive.

"I remember being on my couch, then the floor, then arriving at hospital, and then two days go missing," Tanasio said.

"I was dead for nearly an hour and only a week later I feel great. It's surreal."

The Lucas device physically compresses the chest, like during cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), allowing doctors to work non-stop to put a stent into a blocked artery.

It is the first a time a patient has successfully used the device, which was donated to the medical centre, for such a length of time in Australia, the hospital said.

Clinical death is a medical term for when someone stops breathing and their blood stops circulating.

Giant 23-kilo tumor removed from woman's abdomen in Bulgaria

SOFIA (AFP) - Bulgarian surgeons removed a giant tumour that weighed 23 kilograms (50.7 pounds) from a woman's abdomen on Monday, likening the curious case to something out of an old medical textbook.

The 67-year-old patient

was hospitalised with complications and high temperature after a flu. But doctors from the university obstetrics and gynaecology hospital in Sofia discovered that a giant mass was squeezing a number of vital organs.

"We removed a 23-kilo tu-

mour, which is the size of a seven- or eight-year-old child," surgeon Bozhidar Slavchev said in a hospital statement.

"I have not seen such a bad case of neglected health in my entire long-time career," he added.

The woman told the doctors she had known about the tumour for some 20 years now but was afraid to undergo surgery.

"We have seen similar curious cases described in medicine textbooks from the beginning of the previous century, and it is worrying that today there are still patients who have not had prophylactic examinations for 20 years," another surgeon, Stefan Konstantinov, said.

The woman lost one third of her total weight after the operation.



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Sci-Tech

Russia evacuates 19,000 from flooded Far East

MOSCOW (AFP) - Floods in the Russian Far East broke historic records Monday as authorities evacuated over 19,000 people from affected areas and warned of a further rise in water levels.

Levels in the Amur river which flows from Russia to China broke historic records in the city of Khabarovsk and rain continued to batter the region as authorities sent out bottled water and administered shelters for displaced residents.

Russia's state weather service Rosgidromet forecast a further rise in water levels because of the continuing rains in the Khabarovsk region.

The maximum rise is expected later this week, head of Rosgidromet Alexander Frolov said on television.

The Amur river is expected to rise in Khabarovsk, a city of 600,000 people, to nearly eight metres (26 feet), the regional branch of the emergency ministry said.

Massive rains since the end of July saw the Amur River -- which borders northeastern China -- burst its banks, as well as one of its tributaries the Zeya.



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No reward for hacking Zuckerberg Facebook page

SAN FRANCISCO (AFP) - A researcher who hacked into Facebook chief Mark Zuckerberg's profile to expose a security flaw won't get the customary reward payment from the social network.

While Facebook offers rewards for those who find security holes, it seems that Palestinian researcher Khalil Shreath went too far by posting the information on Zuckerberg's own profile

page.

Shreath said on his blog he found a way for Facebook users to circumvent security and modify a user's timeline.

He said he took the unusual step of hacking into Zuckerberg's profile after being ig-

nored by the Facebook security team.

His reward for exposing the flaw was having his Facebook account disabled.

Facebook said it appreciates help with security but not by hacking into user accounts.



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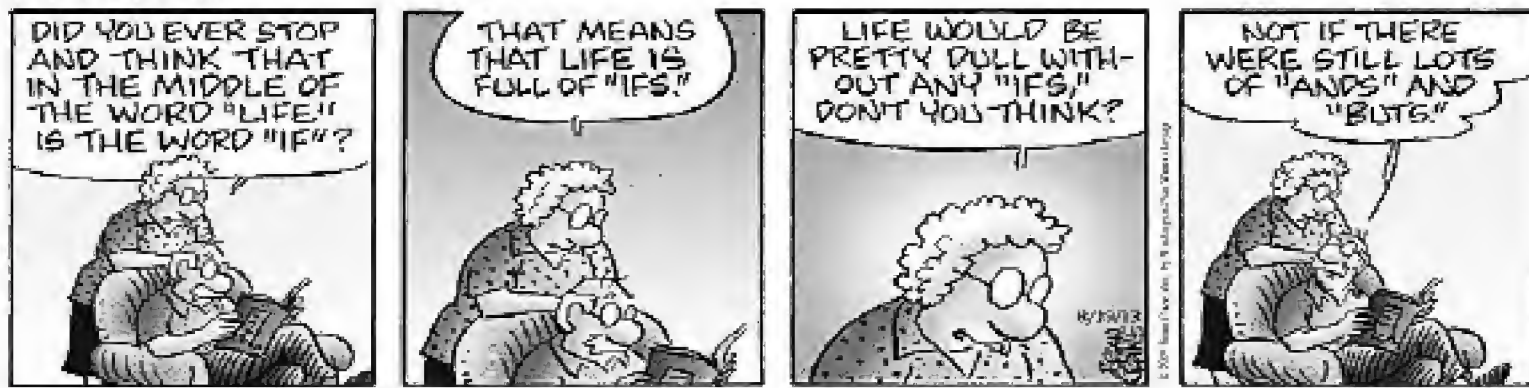
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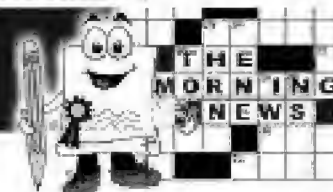
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CALVIN and HOBBS



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ACROSS

1. Golf norm
4. Highway rig
8. Pub
11. Busy activity
12. Garden nuisance
13. Soccer great
14. Soggy
15. She, in Paree
16. Lummoxes
17. Lincoln's son
19. Great ____
21. Enjoyed gum
24. Novelist Zola

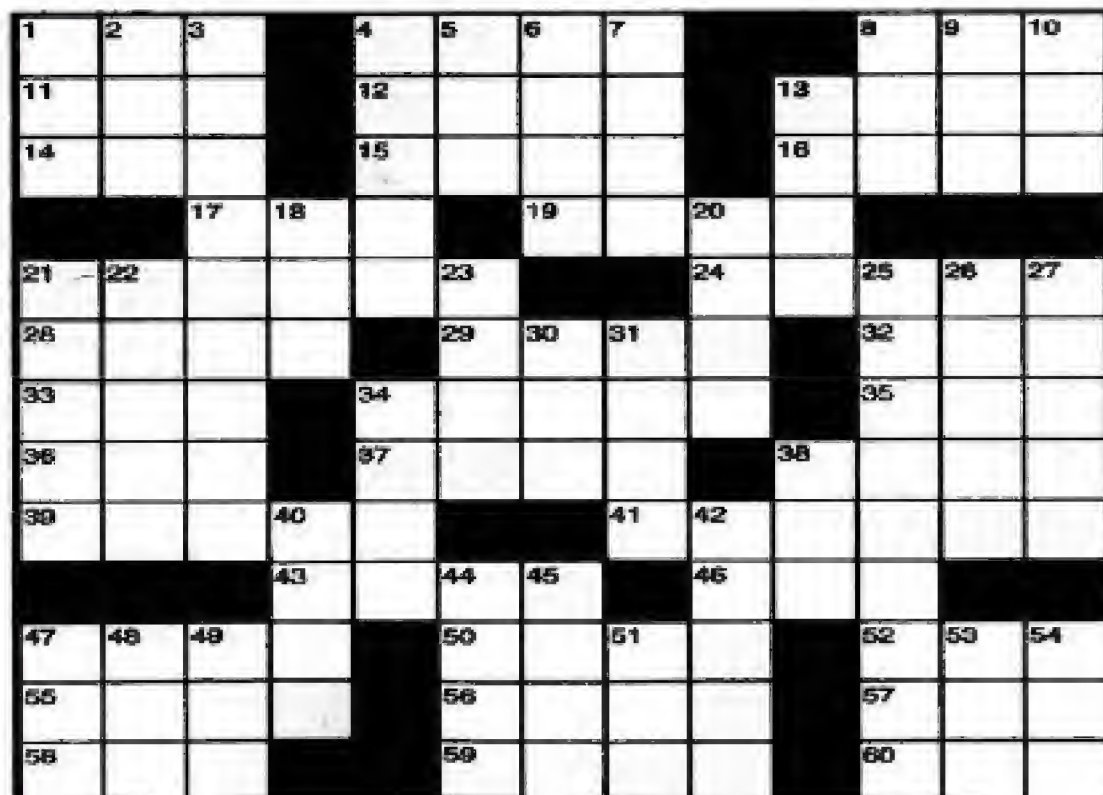
28. At this location
29. List ender (2 wds.)
32. Ruin
33. Plus
34. Tiny
35. "Long, Long ____"
36. Magnavox rival
37. Telephone ____
38. Like fine wine
39. Musical beat
41. Seek to accomplish
43. Night birds
46. Fingers count
47. Merry adventure
50. Medicinal plant
52. Pacino and Unser

55. Navy's rival
56. Trifle description
57. On a pension (abbr.)
58. Director Craven
59. Oversized pitcher
60. Thou

DOWN

1. Rover's foot
2. Fruity beverage
3. Dutch seaport
4. Certain Scandinavian
5. "Electric" swimmer
6. Canasta term

7. Conception
8. "____ dear!" (2 wds.)
9. Candidate Landon
10. Home (abbr.)
13. Haiku or ode
18. Amazement
20. Little ____
21. Graph
22. From this time
23. Audition tape
25. Unreal
26. Tavern request
27. Rust away
30. Roofing material
31. Alan of "M*A*S*H"
34. Flat-bottomed boat
38. Gorilla, e.g.
40. Jail, slangily
42. Pilot
44. Hobbled
45. Large number
47. Attorney's field
48. "How ____ you?"
49. Abbr. in a real estate listing
51. Raw metal
53. Fifth sign of the zodiac
54. VWX precursors



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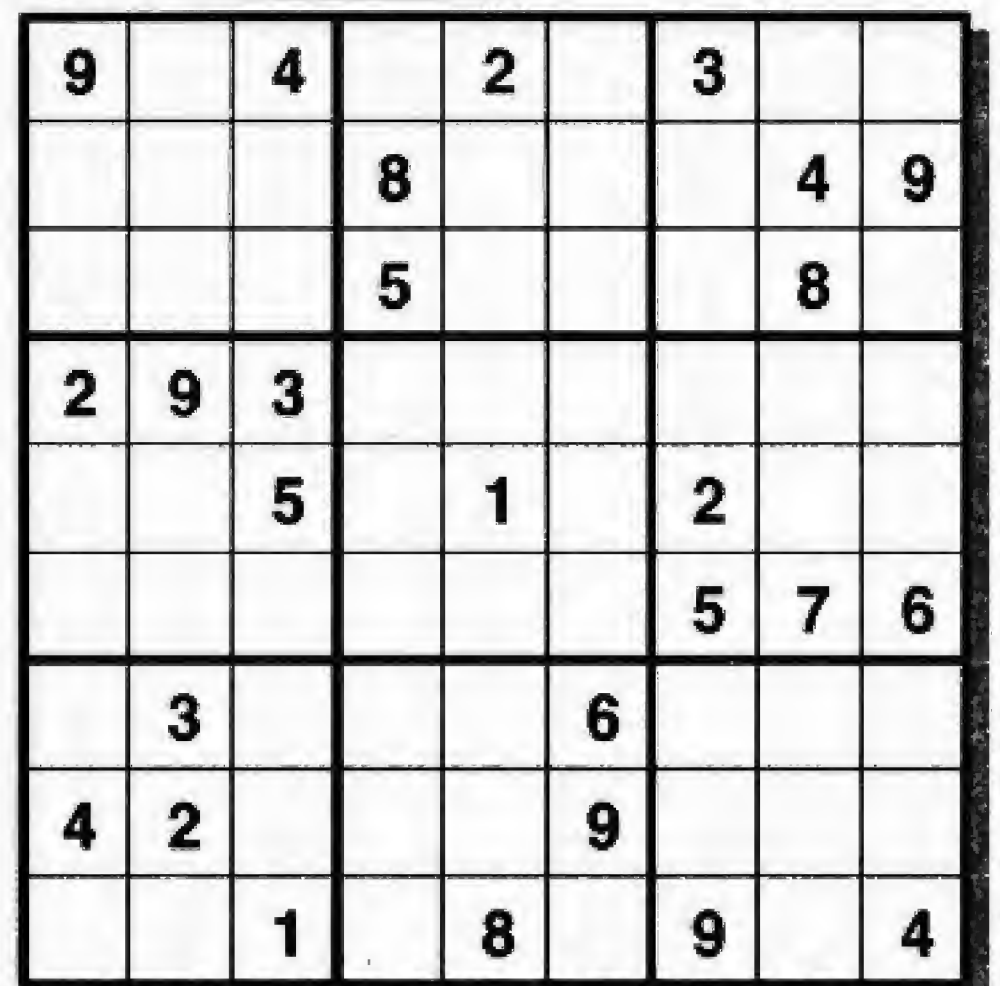
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Sudoku



SOLUTION

9	8	2	6	5	1	3	7	4
5	2	4	9	1	6	8	3	7
6	4	9	2	8	6	7	1	3
8	6	2	9	1	7	5	4	3
3	1	5	8	2	4	6	9	7
2	9	1	7	6	5	4	3	8
7	5	6	2	9	1	3	4	8
4	5	1	2	9	7	8	6	3
1	3	8	7	4	9	2	5	6

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9
A number is Never repeated in a row or column.
In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9



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Canada	CAD	1.77	1.79	1.74
Britain	GBP	2.80	2.85	2.83
Switzerland	CHF	191.71	192.43	193.78
Netherlands	EUR	230.59	232.69	240.05
Sweden	SEK	25.91	26.63	27.82
Denmark	DKK	30.23	30.95	32.43
Norway	NOK	30.67	31.39	30.62
Japan	JPY	214.88	216.84	183.64

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Mexico's left unveils rival energy reform

MEXICO CITY (AFP) - Mexico's main leftist party accused the government on Monday of paving the way for the country to lose control over its oil industry as it presented a rival energy bill.

Leaders of the Democratic Revolution Party met some 1,000 of supporters at the Revolution Monument in Mexico City, days after President Enrique Pena Nieto proposed his own reform.

They proposed giving more budgetary autonomy to state energy monopoly Pemex without tinkering with Mexico's constitution.

The left's proposition was presented by Cuauhtemoc Cardenas, the son of former president Lazaro Cardenas, a revered figure in Mexico for his historic decision to nationalize the country's oil industry in 1938.

Cardenas, a three-time presidential candidate, said the left was in a "battle against the official, submissive and neo-liberal threat of illegal constitutional reforms with the clear objective of removing the Mexican state



from control and management of its oil wealth."

Last week, Pena Nieto unveiled a reform bill that would modify the constitution to allow Pemex to partner with private energy companies in oil and gas exploration and production.

Pena Nieto insisted his proposal was based on the laws of Lazaro Cardenas and that the state would retain ownership over its resources while Pemex would remain a government company.

The president's reform aims at tapping foreign oil company capital and technology to revive oil and gas production, which has sagged under Pemex in recent years.

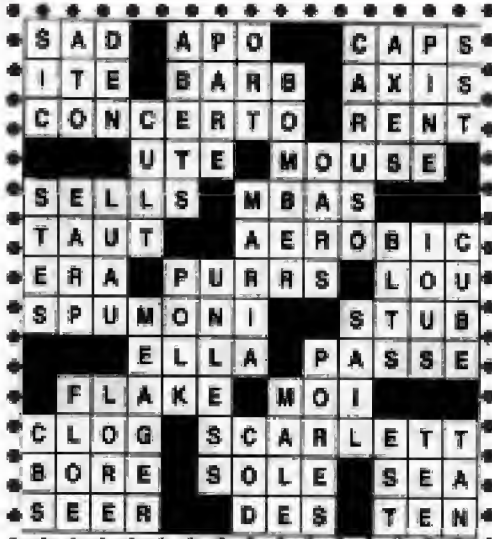
Mexico's main political parties agree Pemex badly needs

to modernize its infrastructure, which has suffered a series of deadly accidents in recent years, including a gas leak explosion at its Mexico City headquarters that left 37 people dead this year.

The company was established in 1938 when Mexico took over foreign oil company operations, and is responsible today for about one-third of state income.

But oil production has dropped from 3.4 million barrels per day in 2004 to 2.5 million last year.

YESTERDAY'S Crossword Answer



FINANCE

Oil prices trim Egypt-fuelled gains

NEW YORK (AFP) - Oil prices slipped back Monday after Friday's one-month highs as concerns about the vital Suez shipping corridor eased somewhat even as sporadic violence continued in NEW YORK (AFP) - Oil prices slipped back Monday after Friday's one-month highs as concerns about the vital Suez shipping corridor eased somewhat even as sporadic violence continued in Egypt.

In New York trade, a barrel of WTI crude for September delivery gave up 36 cents to end at \$107.10.

The main London contract, Brent crude for October delivery, lost 50 cents to \$109.90 after earlier reaching \$111 a barrel.

Continuing strikes that have hampered Libyan oil production and shipping operations for weeks kept a floor on prices however, analysts said.

"Crude oil prices continue to draw support from unrest in Egypt and strikes at Libyan export terminals that have increased concern over supplies, adding a geopolitical risk premium to prices," said Timothy Evans at Citi Futures.

"There is still some concern about supplies passing through the Suez Canal and Sumed Pipeline" amid the violence in Egypt and despite a weaker tone on markets, said Desmond Chua, a market analyst at traders CMC Markets.

The canal carries about 2.5 million barrels daily, or 2.7 percent of global supply.



BOGOTA (AFP) - Thousands of farmworkers joined protest marches in rural areas of Colombia Monday to demand government subsidies and greater access to land, authorities and organizers said. A protest organizer, Eberto Diaz, said between 150,000 and 200,000 farmworkers were taking part in protests nationwide. Organizers say they want President Juan Manuel Santos to set up a national dialogue to discuss land and other issues affecting farmworkers. The Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC), Colombia's largest guerrilla group, said it supported the protest, as it began a new round of peace talks with the government in Havana.

Brazil leader hails law marking oil funds for services

BRASILIA (AFP) - Brazilian President Dilma Rousseff on Monday hailed the passage of a law that reserves the nation's oil royalties for education and health care as an "historic victory."

Demand for greater government spending on schools, public health and transportation were at the heart of massive street protests that shook Brazil in June.

In the first concrete response to the protests, Congress passed a law that reserves 75 percent of oil royalties for education and 25 percent for health care.

About \$800 million from the oil royalties is expected to flow into next year's budget for

education and health as a result of the new law.

Rousseff said royalties from the first of a series of new offshore oil fields, which are to be opened for bidding starting in October, could yield \$150-300 billion in royalties over the next 35 years.

"For me and my government education is the principal pillar to transform Brazil into a great nation, assuring that our people are freed from poverty," she said in her weekly radio address.

The law, which awaits Rousseff's signature, was approved by the Senate in early July and passed by the lower house last week.

Rare blue diamond to be auctioned in Hong Kong

HONG KONG (AFP) - A rare round blue diamond will go under the hammer in Hong Kong in October, with auctioneers hoping the sale will fetch a record-breaking \$19 million despite fears over the slowing Chinese economy.

Auction house Sotheby's expect the 7.59-carat fancy vivid blue diamond, which is about the size of a shirt button, to set a new record for price-per-carat.

Quek Chin Yeow, Sotheby's Asia's deputy chairman, said Hong Kong was the natural venue to sell the gem, known as "The Premier Blue", with collectors expected to fly in from all over the world.

"While there is a slowdown (in Chinese economy), the number of top-level collectors are still there," he told AFP.

"We have been selling very well in Hong Kong."



Hong Kong has become a centre for jewellery auctions thanks to growing wealth in China and other parts of the region, as well as the region's increasing taste for art.

But there are fears for the future of the Chinese economy, the world's second largest, where growth fell to 7.8 percent in 2012 -- its slowest pace in 13 years.

Blue diamonds seldom hit the market and have been coveted by royals and celebrities for centuries, while a round cut is rarely used in coloured stones because of the high wastage.

The most famous example of a blue diamond is the "Hope Diamond", which was bought by King Louis XIV of France in the 17th Century.

The term "fancy" is used to describe a diamond of intense colour, while a gem's saturation grading ranges from light to vivid for coloured diamonds.

The Premier Blue will go up for auction on October 7. Quek said the owner wanted to remain anonymous.

In April, a rare 5.3-carat fancy deep-blue diamond was sold for £6.2 million (\$9.5 million) at a London auction, then setting a record for price-per-carat at \$1.8 million.

Jordan to launch 'first phase' of Dead Sea canal



AMMAN (AFP) - Jordan said on Monday it plans to build parts of a project linking the Red Sea to the shrinking Dead Sea that would supply the parched country with desalinated water.

Prime Minister Abdullah Nsur said the \$980-million project is designed to provide Jordan with 100 million cubic metres (3.5 billion cubic feet) of water a year.

Under the plan, Jordan will draw water from the Gulf of Aqaba at the northern end of the Red Sea to the nearby Rishah Height, where a desalination plant is to be built to treat water.

"The desalinated water will go south to Aqaba, while salt water will be pumped to the Dead Sea," Nsur said.

The Dead Sea, the world's lowest and saltiest body of

water, is on course to dry out by 2050.

The degradation of the Dead Sea started in the 1960s when Israel, Jordan and Syria began to divert water from the Jordan River, the Dead Sea's main supplier.

However, environmentalists fear that an influx of seawater could undermine the Dead Sea's fragile ecosystem.

"We are thinking of selling desalinated water to Israel and buying water from Lake Tiberias (Sea of Galilee)," said Nsur.

The prime minister said Jordan wanted water to supply its northern regions, while Israel also needs water in the south.

Officials say the 500,000 Syrian refugees that Jordan is hosting are stretching its meagre water resources.

The majority of refugees

are living in the north, particularly the Za'atari camp, home to about 130,000 Syrians.

"A cubic meter of desalinated water would cost Israel one dinar (\$1.4), while buying water from Tiberias will be cheaper for reasons related to transportation, costing us one-third of a dinar per cubic metre. It's a good deal," he added.

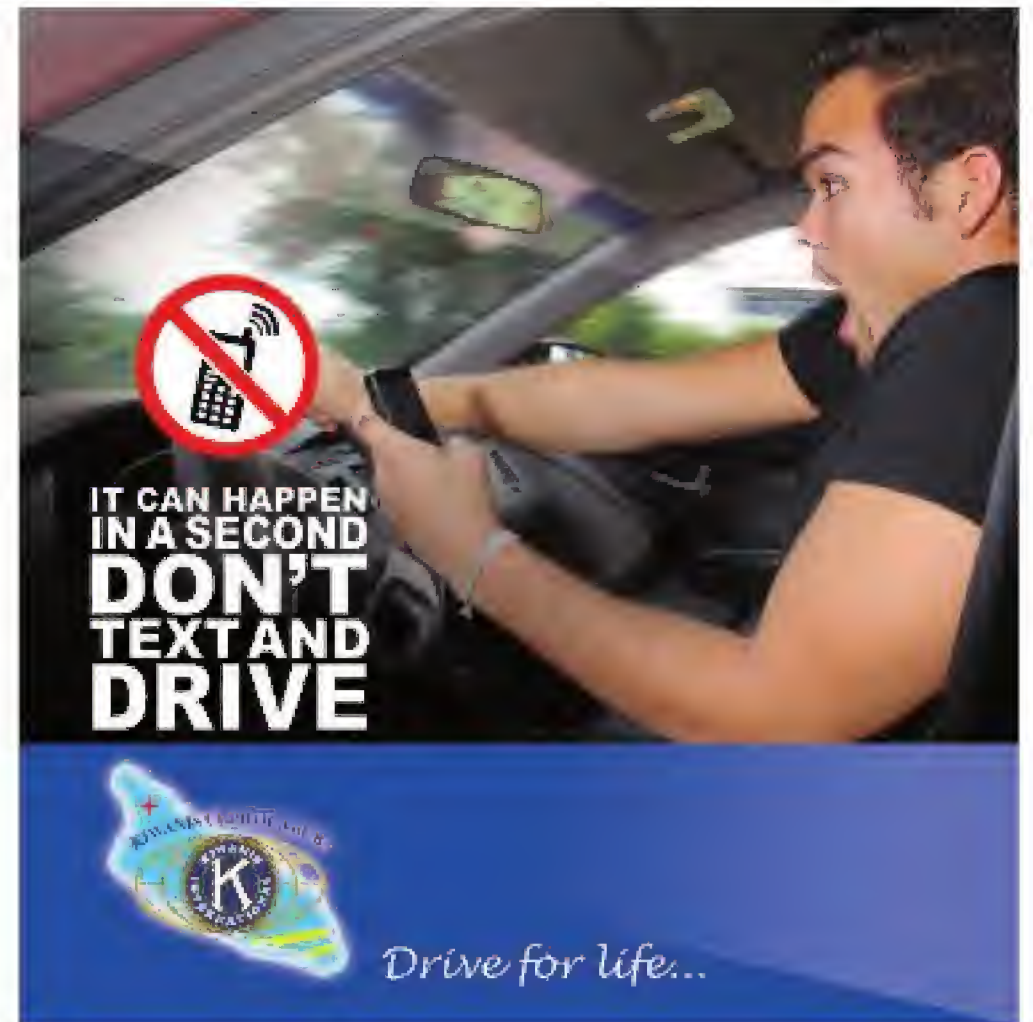
The water ministry says Jordan, where 92 percent of the land is desert, will need 1.6 billion cubic metres of water a year to meet its requirements by 2015, while the population of 6.8 million is growing by almost 3.5 percent a year.

Jordan had initially agreed in principle to build, along with its Palestinian and Israeli neighbours, an \$11-billion pipeline from the Red Sea to refill the rapidly shrinking Dead Sea and provide drinking water.

"We had no other option. We will revive the idea of saving the Dead Sea, while at the same time having drinking water. And we do not need to reach an agreement with Israel."

Jordan signed a peace treaty with Israel in 1994.

In July, Jordan inaugurated a nearly one-billion-dollar project to supply the capital with 100 million cubic metres of water from the 300,000-year-old Disi aquifer in the south to help meet a chronic shortage.



ROTTERDAM -- To cope with rising sea levels, Rotterdam plans to build floating urban districts calling for 13,000 climate-proof floating homes in by 2040 -- of which around 1,200 would be built on top of the water. To showcase how this might work, the Rotterdam Climate Initiative commissioned the "Floating Pavilion". Constructed by Dura Vermeer, the three transparent interconnected domes are perfectly positioned in the Rotterdam City Harbor, Rijnhaven. Not only is the structure almost entirely self sufficient due to the solar powered heating and air conditioning, it's also built with a special plastic material, which is 100 times lighter than glass.



LONDON (AFP) - Prince William has described his newborn son George as a "bit of a rascal" and admitted that fatherhood has changed him already. In his first interview since the birth on July 22, the British prince said he and Catherine were enjoying their new role as parents, but admitted the new arrival was keeping them on their toes. And he said his smooth fitting of the child car seat before driving his wife and son home from the hospital was the result of careful practice. William, 31, who is second in line to the throne, admitted he does not get up in the night to tend to the baby as much as his wife and said she was doing a "fantastic job". He said fatherhood has already changed his outlook on life. He is widely expected to return to London to take on more royal duties from the 87-year-old Queen Elizabeth II.

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5 Burgers Aruba: Now your best breakfast bargain!



Delicious Breakfast

--A favorite stop for a great burger for lunch or dinner has just expanded their hours and menu to offer some of the best breakfast bargains to be found in Palm Beach. Owners Aaron and Rosie Walisever are living their dream: a home on para-

dise while welcoming all and sundry to their proud undertaking, 5 Burgers Aruba. The couple's fanatical dedication to giving their customers what they really want has resulted in a unique menu from an internationally known franchise with a "5", which now includes breakfast.

"You never get a second chance to make a first impression," believes Aaron. Upon entering 5 Burgers Aruba in The Village Mall in Palm Beach, one is struck by utterly spotless surroundings and a smiling, friendly, attentive service crew. Of course, the main item on the menu is burgers-the way they were meant to be, thick and juicy, made fresh daily and 100% pure beef, the kind that made the hamburger a traditional American treat.

However, beginning at 8

a.m., patrons can now order 2 eggs any style, (omelets with 3 fillings are \$7.99) toast and coffee with unlimited refills for the special introductory price of only \$4.99, (\$5.48 with bacon) or All-you-can-eat pancakes, for \$6.99, with free refills on fresh coffee. A new plate called the "Home Run" comes with 2 eggs, bacon or sausage, 2 pancakes, toast, home fries, with complimentary, unlimited coffee for only \$9.99! Breakfast is served until 11 a.m. Famous for their fries made from fresh potatoes, Aaron has been working for months on devising the most irresistible home fries recipe, chunky and tender with skins still on; after much testing and tasting, he got the thumbs up from his harshest critic, Rosie; so this is another treat you have to try.

A glance at their burger menu will certainly tempt you to return for lunch or dinner, to sample their famous specialty items such as the Gouda,

Farmer's or Man Burger (almost 12 ounces of choice beef), and a Western Burger with Aarons' secret-recipe crispy onion rings. All of these can be personalized with an incredible array of toppings, (mushrooms, jala-peño peppers, bacon, cheese, lettuce, tomato...whatever, the list goes on) at absolutely no extra cost.



5 Burger portions are ENORMOUS! Aaron suggests that even their small serving of fries is enough to be shared by two. He was very amused to

watch a famous French chef demonstrating the best way to make fried potatoes on a gourmet cooking show and could only comment "He stole my recipe!"

Try them the English way-with vinegar, and you'll wonder how you ever ate fries without it. This same 5-star chef also swears by Gouda as the best topping for the ideal gourmet cheeseburger.

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SPORTS



-- We are en route to the world of football Brazil, 2014. Today we'll give a little history of the best defenders of all time. Continuing with the list of the 20 best players is #4, **Jose Nasazzi Yarza** which talent and skill, contributed greatly to his national team.

José Nasazzi Yarza (Montevideo, Uruguay, on May 24, 1901 - ibid., on June 17, 1968) was an Uruguayan footballer who captained his country to the conquests of the gold medals in the Olympic Games in Amsterdam 1928, Paris 1924 and the FIFA World Cup (Jules Rimet) held in Uruguay 1930. It is considered one of the best Latin American defenses of all time and the best of Uruguayan soccer.

Nasazzi is characterized by being a supporter strong, fast, great recovery, excellent location, perfect in the game of high and low. There was no Defender serviceman. He is highlighted by his tremendous personality, by his innate condition of control, for his courage, for the great as-

cendancy over their coworkers. It was 'pattern', leader and conductor.

Nasazzi is the most successful player in the history of Uruguay. In its palmares are conquests as the Golden medals of the Olympic Games of 1924 and 1928, 1930 FIFA World Cup and the Copa América in 1923, 1924, 1926 and 1935.

Nasazzi near the end of his career, wearing the shirt of the Club Nacional de Fútbol.

Level clubs, Nasazzi lived for some years in mines where colors parried district write FC amateur team that shared campus with other players that later triumphed in the capital. Also wore the shirts of the Lito, Bella Vista and Nacional. With this last officially debuted in 1933 and won the Uruguayan Championships in 1933 and 1934. In addition, being



player of Bella Vista, participated in the European tour made by national in 1925, considered the most successful in the history of football.

Nasazzi retired from the active practice of sport in 1937. Between 1942 and 1945 was coach of his country.

The Bella Vista Club honored him giving his name to their Stadium

Will continue.

Red Sox Call Up Top Prospect Xander Bogaerts

-- With the Boston Red Sox having lost seven of their last 10 games the team has decided the time is now to call up their top prospect, 20-year-old shortstop Xander Bogaerts. Bogaerts will replace Brock Holt on the 25-man roster who was optioned back to Pawtucket.

Bogaerts is a righthanded hitter and has hit .297 with an .865 OPS in 116 games for Double A Portland and Triple A Pawtucket this season. He has 15 home runs and 67 RBIs. In 60 games with Triple-A Pawtucket, Bogaerts is hitting .284 with a .369 OBP, .453 slugging percentage and nine home.

Scouts and media evaluators generally rank Bogaerts among the top four or five prospects in the game. The Red Sox hope that Bogaerts will provide a spark, especially from the right side.

A native of Aruba, he



played for the Dutch national team at the World Baseball Classic that finished fourth.

He was ranked the No. 8 overall prospect by Baseball America before the season. Bogaerts will become the first position player age 20 or younger to get called up by the Red Sox since Dwight Evans in 1972.

News on the roster moves was first reported by WEEI.com.

THE MORNING NEWS
ARUBA congratulates Xander with this opportunity and wish him success.



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Tennis: Azarenka beats Williams to win in Cincinnati



CINCINNATI (AFP) Victoria Azarenka toppled world No. 1 Serena Williams 2-6, 6-2, 7-6 (3/6) to claim the Cincinnati WTA title and establish herself as a contender for the US Open.

The two-and-a-half-hour epic featured multiple momentum shifts after Azarenka, the second seed from Belarus, began the afternoon with two double faults to lose the opening set in under 30 minutes.

She managed to steady herself and held on to beat the top-seeded Williams for only the third time in 15 matches. It was her second victory over the American this year, after a triumph in the final at Doha.

"What doesn't kill you makes you stronger," said Azarenka who earned her 17th

career title and first in Cincinnati. "It was a tough match and we both fought really hard. It was an incredible week for me."

Azarenka had played sporadically over the past months due to injuries suffered at both Wimbledon and this month in California. The Belarussian was competing in only her 10th event of an injury-hit season.

Williams had been trying for two major hardcourt titles in a row after winning Montreal last weekend.

Between them, Williams and Azarenka have claimed five of the last seven Grand Slam singles titles dating to the 2012 Australian Open.

Williams beat her rival in the US Open final a year ago.



MINNEAPOLIS (AFP) - Andrew Brown #47 of the New York Mets is out at second base as Pedro Florimon #25 of the Minnesota Twins attempts to turn a double play during the fifth inning of the game. The Mets beat The Twins 6-1.



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MLB Standings

American League

East	W	L	Pct	GB
BOSTON	73	53	.579	—
TAMPA	70	52	.574	1.0
BALTIMORE	67	56	.545	4.5
YANKEES	64	59	.520	7.5
TORONTO	57	67	.460	15.0

National League

East	W	L	Pct	GB
ATLANTA	76	48	.613	—
WASHINGTON	60	63	.488	15.5
NY METS	57	66	.463	18.5
PHILADELPHIA	54	69	.439	21.5
MIAMI	47	75	.385	28.0

Central	W	L	Pct	GB
DETROIT	73	58	.559	—
CLEVELAND	66	59	.532	7.0
KANSAS	64	59	.520	8.5
MINNESOTA	54	69	.439	18.5
CHICAGO	49	74	.398	23.5

Central	W	L	Pct	GB
PITTSBURGH	72	51	.585	—
ST. LOUIS	71	52	.577	1.0
CINCINNATI	70	54	.565	2.5
MILWAUKEE	54	70	.435	18.5
CHICAGO	53	70	.431	19.0

West	W	L	Pct	GB
TEXAS	71	53	.573	—
OAKLAND	70	53	.569	0.5
SEATTLE	57	66	.463	13.5
LA ANGELES	55	68	.447	15.5
HOUSTON	41	82	.333	39.5

West	W	L	Pct	GB
DODGERS	72	51	.585	—
ARIZONA	64	58	.525	7.5
COLORADO	58	67	.464	15.0
SAN DIEGO	56	68	.452	16.5
SAN FRANCISCO	55	68	.447	17.0

x-Clinched Playoff Spot; y-Division Champ

Golf: Europe routs USA to retain Solheim Cup



PARKER (AFP) - Europe produced the most dominant victory in Solheim Cup history, routing the Americans 18-10 to retain the trophy and win the biennial event for the

first time on US soil.

Sweden's Caroline Hedwall went a perfect 5-0, sinking a four-foot putt to beat USA captain's pick Michelle Wie 1 up and give the Europeans the 14 points they needed to make sure of keeping the trophy for another two years.

Hedwall is the first in Solheim history to go 5-0 and the only player on either team to play all five matches this week

at the Colorado Golf Club.

USA skipper Meg Mallon finished 5-3 in eight Solheim Cups as a player, but will take much of the blame for the embarrassing defeat.

Europe dominated with their putting, receiving big contributions from a half dozen Solheim Cup rookies, including 17-year-old Charley Hull of England. Hull overpowered American star Paula Creamer twice in as many days, winning the Saturday fourballs and the Sunday singles.

Europe's eight point win was the biggest margin of victory in the history of the women's golf tournament, breaking the old mark of seven points which was achieved twice, by Europe in 2003 in Sweden and the Americans in the first year of event in 1990 in Florida.

Boxing: Britain's Barker claims IBF middleweight title



ATLANTIC CITY (AFP) - Britain's Darren Barker overcame a middle round knockdown to defeat Australian Daniel Geale with a split decision to win the International Boxing Federation middleweight title on week-end.

The 31-year-old Barker battled hard in the early going but was knocked down by a right hand in the sixth round before holding on in the 12th to claim the title.

The Englishman, who almost retired from boxing in 2006 following the death of his

brother, improved to 26-1 with 16 knockouts as he won on two of the judges' scorecards, 116-111 and 114-113. One judge scored the fight 114-113 in favor of Geale, who lost for just the second time in his pro career.

The loss snapped Geale's win streak at eight consecutive fights. Geale, of Launceston, Tasmania, drops to a 29-2, 15 KOs overall.

Former European champ Martinez improved to 29-4 with 21 KOs, while Romero has 23 wins and one loss.

Football: Newcastle snub Arsenal bid for Cabaye

LONDON (AFP) - Newcastle have turned down Arsenal's £12 million bid (14 million euros, \$19 million) for France midfielder Yohan Cabaye, according to reports on Monday.

Cabaye has been targeted by Arsene Wenger as the Arsenal manager looks to bolster his injury-hit squad after Saturday's dismal 3-1 defeat at home to Aston Villa on the opening weekend of the Premier League campaign.

Angry Arsenal fans chanted for Wenger to splash the cash at the final whistle after the Frenchman failed to make a marquee signing during the close-season.

But Wenger's offer for Cabaye is reported to have fallen well short of Newcastle's



valuation and Magpies boss Alan Pardew has no intention of losing the former Lille player on the cheap.

Meanwhile, Cabaye, who is said to be valued at around £20 million by Newcastle, was left out of the Newcastle squad for their Premier League opener at Manchester City on Monday.

The 27-year-old has made 73 appearances for Newcastle since joining from Lille in 2011 and has become a firm fan favourite.

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Athletics: **17 Indians** **found over-age** **at Youth Games**

NEW DELHI (AFP) - India's bungling sports officials were left red-faced on Monday after 17 track and field athletes were thrown out of the Asian Youth Games underway in Nanjing, China for being overage.

The athletes, who were part of a 27-member track and field squad, were barred from taking part in the Games because they were above the stipulated age of 17, an official said.

Two days ago, four Indian badminton players were prevented from competing in Nanjing because organisers said their names had not been entered for the competition by officials back home.

India has been suspended from the Olympic movement by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) since December last year for electing corruption-tainted officials to its local association.

The country's young sports stars are taking part in the Nanjing Games as "independent" Olympic athletes under the IOC flag.

They were selected by the Athletics Federation of India (AFI) and approved by the state-run Sports Authority of India (SAI).

Athletics officials would not comment on the over-age problems, but SAI chief Jiji Thomson blamed the AFI for the mix-up.

Sports Minister Jitendra Singh ordered an inquiry, saying the government had noted the incidents with "considerable disquiet".

In a statement issued by his office late Monday, Singh said it was important to fix responsibility for the "lapses".

He also ordered authorities "to put in place a mechanism so that such incidents do not occur in future".

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Olympian Oscar Pistorius indicted on a charge of premeditated murder

PRETORIA, - In a brisk 12-minute hearing yesterday, a South African court formally indicted Olympian sprinter Oscar Pistorius on charges of premeditated murder and illegal possession of ammunition in the Valentine's Day death of his girlfriend, model Reeva Steenkamp.

Mr. Pistorius huddled with his brother and sister in a brief prayer in the Pretoria courtroom before listening as mag-



istrate Desmond Nair read the charges against him and set the date for the trial, which will begin on March 3 2014.

The indictment comes on what would have been Ms. Steenkamp's 30th birthday, after being delayed by two months to give the state additional time to finish its investigation.

On Monday prosecutors announced that they were now prepared to make the case that

Pistorius "did unlawfully and intentionally kill a person" - Steenkamp - on the morning of Feb. 14, and will call 107 witnesses to support the charge, according to South Africa's Mail and Guardian newspaper.

Indeed, neither the prosecution nor Pistorius himself deny that he shot and killed Steenkamp through a locked bathroom door in his luxury Pretoria home earlier this year.